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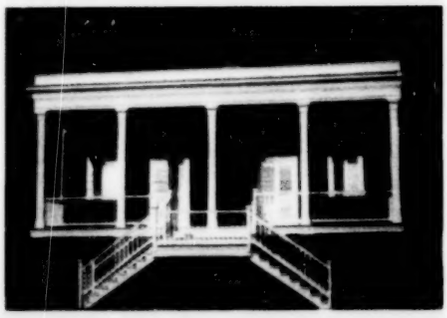
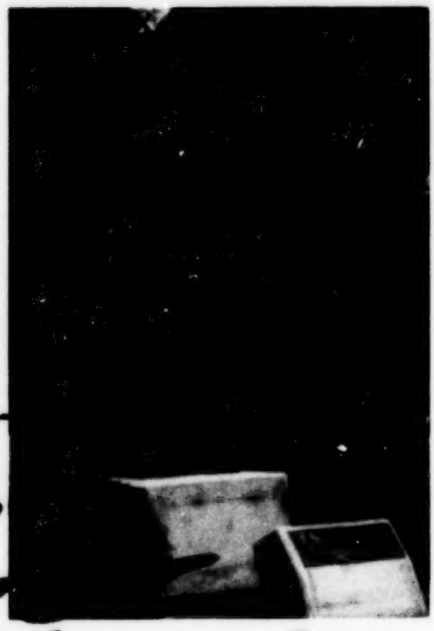


Abbreviated Final General Management Plan • Environmental Impact Statement



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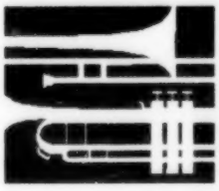

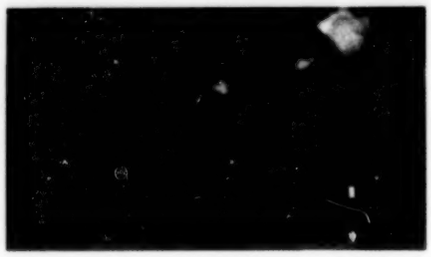

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RECOMMENDED:

April 28, 1999

Gayle Hazelwood, Superintendent
New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park

APPROVED:

April 30, 1999

Jerry Belson
Director, Southeast Region

Printed on recycled paper

I

Final
General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement
New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park
Orleans Parish, Louisiana

New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park was created by Congress to celebrate the origins and evolution of the uniquely indigenous American art form of jazz. The park seeks to preserve jazz resources and disseminate information about the history, development, and progression of jazz. This *Final General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* describes and analyzes three alternatives proposed by the National Park Service for setting park management and direction for New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park over the next 10 to 15 years.

Alternative A is the no-action, or status quo, alternative. This alternative would not allow the park to achieve its mission; however, it does provide a baseline for comparison with the other alternatives. **Alternative B** would emphasize conveying the park's interpretive story through such personal programs as interpreted performances, seminars, and performances. Educational activities would be given maximum emphasis in this alternative. It would allow the park to assist in the adaptive use of structures related to jazz. Interpretive programming would heavily depend on the involvement of local musicians and educators, thus supporting cultural preservation. Under this alternative, the visitor center would be located at the Old U.S. Mint. **Alternative C** would emphasize a strong partnership program between the National Park Service and other entities involved in preserving the New Orleans jazz tradition. The National Park Service would provide funding for basic park operations and would work intensively with others to develop partnerships and alternative funding sources for interpretation, visitor use and experiences, and other activities focusing on preserving the jazz tradition. The extent and success of this alternative would depend on substantial support from partners, especially the private sector. Interpretation media would be extensively used, and the size and scope of park educational and preservation programs would be guided by the development of partnerships. Under this alternative, the visitor center would be located at a complex in Louis Armstrong Park. Alternative C is the National Park Service's **Proposed Action**.

The responsible official is the National Park Service's regional director for the southeast region. A record of decision will be issued 30 days after publication of release of the document in the *Federal Register*. The National Park Service will accept comments on the *Final General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* during this 30-day period. For further information, contact the Superintendent, New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, 365 Canal Street, Suite 2400, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 589-4806. Written comments also can be sent to this address.

United States Department of the Interior / National Park Service

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- Brucie Rafforty
- Sal Sunseri
- Hal Willard

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Foreword

This *Final General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* is presented in an abbreviated format. It must be integrated with the *Draft General Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement*, New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, issued in October 1998, to be considered a complete document reflecting the full proposal, its alternatives, and all significant environmental impacts. The two documents **together** compose the complete *Final General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement*. As in the draft document, alternative C is the National Park Service's proposed action.

The abbreviated format has been used because the changes to the draft document are minor and confined primarily to factual corrections, which do not modify the analysis. Use of this format is in compliance with the 1978 implementing regulations (40 CFR 1503.4 [c]) for the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The draft and final documents together describe the final plan, its alternatives, all significant environmental impacts, and the public comments that have been received and evaluated.

This *Final General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* is composed of four parts: the abstract/cover sheet, errata, and comments and responses. The abstract briefly describes the alternatives, outlines the status of the document (i.e., draft, final, etc.), and lists the responsible agencies and contact persons. The errata section identifies and corrects any errors and shows any necessary revisions made in the *Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement*. The comments and responses address or otherwise respond to all substantive written or verbal comments received during the public review period.

Errata

Following the public review of the *Draft General Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement*, New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, some errors were discovered. This section identifies those errors, notes where they occur in the document, and presents any necessary corrections to the document.

Page 6, Paragraph 2, third sentence. Change "For all practical purposes, the essence of," to "For programmatic purposes, the."

Page 6, Paragraph 2, After the third sentence add the following sentence: "The activities of the National Park Service would not involve streets."

Page 6, Footnote 2. At the end of the footnote add: "and are presented herein in appendix D."

Page 17, At the end of the section on the City of New Orleans insert the following:

The city of New Orleans is beginning a master plan for Louis Armstrong Park. This effort would include NPS involvement in matters affecting the development of an overall strategy for the future of Armstrong Park. Any proposal to expand the NPS area of Armstrong Park, or to use Congo Square in a joint-use arrangement, would be addressed through the cooperative agreement already in place between the National Park Service and the city (appendix C). All decisions would be mutually agreed upon.

Page 21, After the New Orleans Jazz Club discussion insert the following:

French Quarter Festival

The French Quarter Festival, a nonprofit organization, promotes a wide range of New Orleans music, including jazz, in an annual three-day celebration. This event usually takes place in early April at various locations in the French Quarter.

Congo Square Foundation, Inc.

This organization is dedicated to the preservation and use of Congo Square in Louis Armstrong Park. It promotes research and lectures relating to Congo Square and sponsors festivals held in Congo Square generally on an annual basis. These festivals include jazz and other musical forms.

Pages 26 and 28. Remove quotations from Sidney Bechet.

Page 39, After paragraph 2 add a new paragraph as follows:

The park would explore the option of setting up an advisory committee consisting of jazz presenters, journalists, photographers, archivists, and others. This committee would advise the park and the New Orleans Jazz Commission on matters related to interpretation.

Page 46, After paragraph 2 add a new paragraph as follows:

To provide a formal entrance for visitors to the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park visitor center, the National Park Service would explore various options. These options include an entrance from either St. Philip Street, St. Ann Street, or both. Any entrance from St. Ann would be completed in partnership with the city of New Orleans. When a formal entryway is selected, an analysis would be undertaken to determine if this action would result in any additional impacts.

Page 52, Paragraph 1, last sentence. Change "parks need" to "park needs."

Page 56, Paragraph 5, fourth sentence. Change "Yet ,New" to "Yet, New."

Page 97, Paragraph 2, After the last sentence add: "There may be some short-term disruption in street use around Louis Armstrong Park due to construction activity."

Page 109, Paragraph 1, first sentence. Change "it Organic" to "its Organic."

Page 109, Paragraph 1, first sentence. Change "in 1992" to "through 1992."

Page 109, Paragraph 1, second sentence. Change "in New Orleans" to "in the New Orleans."

Page 109, Paragraph 2, last sentence. Change "national register" to "National Register."

Page 109, Paragraph 3, first sentence. Change "national register" to "National Register."

Page 109, Paragraph 3, second sentence. Change "Louisiana state historic preservation office and the advisory council" to "Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council."

Page 109, Paragraph 3, third sentence. Change "state historic preservation office and advisory council" to "State Historic Preservation Office and Advisory Council."

Page 109, Paragraph 4, second sentence. Change "state historic preservation office" to "State Historic Preservation Office."

Page 109, Paragraph 4, third sentence. Change "state historic preservation office and advisory council" to "State Historic Preservation Office and Advisory Council."

Page 110, Paragraph 1, second sentence. Change "state historic preservation office / advisory council" to "State Historic Preservation Office / Advisory Council."

Page 110, Paragraph 3, second sentence. Change "state historic preservation offices" to "State Historic Preservation Office."

Page 110, Paragraph 3, third sentence. Change "Louisiana historic preservation officer." to "Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer."

Page 110, Paragraph 3, fifth sentence. Change "advisory council" to "the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation."

Page 111, Paragraph 1, second sentence. Change "national register" to "National Register."

Page 111, Paragraph 3, first sentence. Change "New Orleans Jazz" to "New Orleans jazz."

Page 130, Footnote. Change "$156.000" to "$156,000."

Page 142, New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park. Change "Hazlewood" to "Hazelwood" and "Winnbusch" to " Ceasar-Winbush."

Comments and Responses on the Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement

Over 800 copies of the *Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* were distributed to agencies, organizations, and individuals on November 13, 1998. The document was also distributed to the Algiers Regional Public Library, John T. Christian Library, Latter Branch Public Library, Loyola University Public Library, New Orleans Public Library, Southern University Library, Dillard University Library, Amistad Research Center at Tulane University, William Ransom Hogan Archives of New Orleans Jazz at Tulane University, University of New Orleans, and the Louisiana State Museum. These repositories kept copies on file for public review and comment. The National Park Service conducted three meetings in December 1998 to solicit comments regarding the *Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement.*

Representatives from the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, the New Orleans Jazz Commission, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, and the National Park Service's Atlanta and Denver Offices met with interested parties in New Orleans and Algiers. The meetings were held as public hearings in the late afternoon and evening. The New Orleans meetings were held from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15 at the Treme Community Center, and from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 17, at the Music Auditorium of Tulane University. The Algiers meeting was held on Wednesday, December 16, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Algiers Regional Library Center. The public was informed of the meeting locations and times in the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park newsletter, which was distributed to a mailing list of about 800 on November 21, 1998. Meeting locations, dates, and times were also placed in the New Orleans *Times Picayune* and *Gambit* newspapers. Also the draft document was placed on the Internet. No comments were received on the Internet document.

Public comments were received by a variety of methods. At the public hearings, attendees were invited to step to the microphone and verbally make their comments. These comments were recorded by court reporters. The court reporter recorded comments and prepared a transcript of the entire public meeting, including the NPS presentation and the public comments. Meeting attendees were also provided with blank comment forms to fill out at the public hearing to turn in or to mail at a later date. The response deadline was January 25, 1999.

Attendance at the Treme meetings was the highest with 41 attendees. Thirteen individuals attended the Algiers meeting, and 23 individuals attended the Tulane meeting. A 60-day review period (November 21, 1998 to January 25, 1999) was designated for receiving comments from agencies, organizations, and the general public. A total of 41 written comments were received during the review period. At the end of the review period, the verbal comments and written comment forms were then reviewed, and substantive comments were identified. Substantive comments are those which (1) question the accuracy of the information/data presented, (2) question the adequacy of the environmental analysis, (3) present reasonable alternatives to those presented in the draft document, or (4) cause changes or revisions in the proposal. Responses to the substantive written and verbal comments were prepared and are presented in the following text. The written comments are reproduced with the substantive portions highlighted. The corresponding responses are also presented on the same page. Each substantive verbal comment was summarized, and the response to each comment follows its summary. In many cases, verbal comments were identical to written comments received, and in those instances responses are presented for the written comments only.

Responses to Written Comments about the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park *Draft General Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement*

Following are the letters received commenting on the *Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* along with the NPS responses.

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COMMENTS

4

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 3929
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70821-3929

January 13, 1999

IN REPLY REFER TO
Draft General Management
Plan/Environmental Impact
Statement for New Orleans
Jazz National Historical Park

Ms. Gayle Hazelwood
Superintendent
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park
365 Canal Street, Suite 2400
New Orleans, Louisiana, 70130-1112

Dear Ms. Hazelwood,

Your transmittal letter for the subject document requested comments by January 25, 1999.

The effort that your agency is undertaking is an ambitious one. It will influence activities throughout the New Orleans area and have an effect on the transportation facilities to some degree. It is our impression that the plan will rely upon the existing transportation system. It is also noted that the State and City of New Orleans will continue to make plans to improve and accommodate the movement of people and goods throughout the area for a wide variety of needs.

1 On page 6, under a "Brief Description of the Park", language is used that implies that the park would encompass the greater metropolitan New Orleans area. It is recommended that the language be changed to more clearly define the limits of the Park and make distinct the area of program influence. Federal Highway Administration provides funding to State and Local governments for transportation improvements. Part of the Department of Transportation legislation (23 U.S.C. 138 (Section 4(f))) requires protective measures for publicly owned park, recreational area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge, or any significant historic site when these funds are used. The broad language used on page 6 could be misconstrued to apply the 4(f) requirements to a major portion of the New Orleans metropolitan area.

We would limit our application of the 4(f) provisions to the Visitor Center area under alternates B and C. Many of the out reach efforts referred to under the General Management Plan concerning the New Orleans Jazz heritage could possible fall under the National Register of Historic Place legislation (36 CFR 800) procedures and thence under the 4(f) protective

U.S. Department of Transportation

1. The New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park's legislation encompasses the New Orleans metropolitan area only for the purpose of outreach and partnership opportunities. An agreement by the park to lease or own would be limited to those structures necessary to carry out the park's purposes. The present proposal and alternatives do not take in any highways or streets. The activities of the National Park Service would not involve streets. Construction activities may cause some short-term disruption of use of Louis Armstrong Park and the streets around the park. These would be temporary and short term, with the long-term result being the continued and unimpaired use of the area as a public park. Part of the future NPS involvement in the greater New Orleans metropolitan area would be to help preserve those structures related to jazz. It is not anticipated that this activity would have any permanent impact on streets or highways. If it is determined that any activity undertaken by the National Park Service would constitute an action subject to (23 U.S.C. 138 (section 4 (f)), consultation would be undertaken with your office. Language to help clarify the points made by your office can be found in the Errata portion of this document.

measures. We would view that most of the out reach areas under the general management plan would not fall under 4(f) procedures, but would be included in general terms under the NEPA review process.

2 The above comments are offered to clarify the potential impact of the park and management plan on possible federal funded transportation projects. There is an appropriate balance between development actions and park and preservation functions and actions that needs to be keep in perspective. If not done already, we would encourage the National Park Service to contact the New Orleans Regional Planning Commission to coordinate the proposed visitor center and general management plan with other planning activities already underway in the New Orleans area. If additional information is desired about the Federal Aid Highway Program including the 4(f) aspect, please contact William C. Farr within our office (225-389-0465). It may be beneficial for representatives of both of our agencies to meet to assure that our programs can be developed without conflict. Please contact Mr. Farr so that a mutually acceptable meeting can be arranged.

Sincerely yours,

Walter J. Kedzia

for William A. Hausmann
Division Administrator

2. The National Park Service appreciated the opportunity to meet with your office and discuss the Draft General Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement, New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park. This meeting helped the National Park Service gain a better understanding of your programs.

5

COMMENTS

6

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

January 25, 1999

Superintendent
New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park
365 Canal Street, Suite 2400
New Orleans, LA 70103-1142

Dear Superintendent:

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing NEPA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 office in Dallas, Texas, has completed its review of the draft General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, New Orleans, Louisiana.

The EPA rates your DEIS as "LO," i.e., EPA has "Lack of Objections" to the lead agency's preferred alternative. Our classification will be published in the Federal Register according to our responsibility under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, to inform the public of our views on proposed Federal actions.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the DEIS and request that you send our office one copy of the Final EIS at the same time that it is sent to the Office of Federal Activities, (2251A), EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20044.

Sincerely yours,

Michael P. Jansky, P.E.
Regional Environmental Review
Coordinator

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6

RESPONSES

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

6

COMMENTS

State of Louisiana

Department of Environmental Quality

M.J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR.
GOVERNOR

DEC 07 1998

J. DALE GIVENS
SECRETARY

Ms. Gayle Hazelwood, Superintendent
US Department of the Interior
365 Canal Street, Suite 2400
New Orleans, LA 70130-1112

Dear Ms. Hazelwood:

RE: Project No. DEQ9911300407, proposal for the establishment of a New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park; US Dept. of the Interior, Orleans Parish

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Office of Water Resources (OWR), has received your request for comments dated November 30, 1998, regarding the above referenced project. Based on an in-house review of the information you have submitted to this Department, the OWR has no objection to the implementation of the proposed project for the establishment of a New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, provided that the issues listed below are satisfied if required. Please note that no field investigation was conducted on this project.

This Office recommends that you investigate the following requirements that may impact your proposed project:

1. if any of the proposed work is located in wetlands or other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, you should contact the Corps in order to apply for any necessary permits;

2. if a permit is required from the Corps, a Water Quality Certification from OWR may also be required;

3. all precautions should be observed to protect the groundwater of the region (SEE ATTACHMENT);

4. all precautions should be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities (SEE ATTACHMENT); and

5. the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), is in the process of renewing the stormwater general permit concerning construction areas greater than five acres. It is recommended that you contact Jan Cedars at (504) 765-2784 to determine if your proposed improvements are covered under that general permit.

3

State of Louisiana, Department of Environmental Quality

3. During any construction on the facilities for New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, the National Park Service would obtain all necessary permits. In addition mitigating measures would be undertaken to protect the groundwater and minimize nonpoint pollution. The National Park Service would use the best management practices for erosion control that would minimize the transport of sediment to area surface water during construction activities. The proposed action and alternatives would have no appreciable impacts on long-term water quality in the area.

Ms. Hazelwood
Page Two (2)

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Tom Mayhall of the Application Verification Unit at (504) 765-2965.

Sincerely,

Jim Delahoussaye

Jim Delahoussaye, Program Manager
Water Pollution Control Division

JD\trp
Attachment

c:

Southeast Regional Office
Water Quality Management Division

RESPONSES

8

COMMENTS

State of Louisiana

Department of Environmental Quality

M.J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR.
GOVERNOR

E. DALE GIVENS
SECRETARY

December 14, 1998

Ms. Gayle Hazelwood, Superintendent
US Department of the Interior
365 Canal Street, Suite 2400
New Orleans, LA 70130-1112

RE: DEQ9911300407
US Dept. of the Interior; Orleans Parish
Proposal for the establishment of a New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park

Dear Ms. Hazelwood:

The Department of Environmental Quality has received your application on the above referenced project and was distributed to the Office of Waste Services, Office of Air Quality and Radiation Protection and the Office of Water Resources for comments.

There were no objections based on the information submitted to us. However, the Office of Water Resources has made the following comments:

Please see the letter from Jim Delahoussaye, Program Manager of the Water Pollution Control Division.

"Any approval, or letter of no objection, granted by LDEQ is relevant only to the granting of funds for the proposed project. This does not relieve the applicant of his responsibility for obtaining any other permits or approvals necessary from LDEQ or other State, Local, or Federal agencies, nor does it influence the Department's ultimate decision on those permits or approvals. A copy of our brochure on construction best management practices is enclosed."

State of Louisiana, Department of Environmental Quality

December 14, 1998
Page 2

Please submit any future applications to the following address and we will expedite it as quickly as possible.

Mrs. Lisa Miller
Department of Environmental Quality
P. O. Box 82231
Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2231

Should you need any additional information please call me at (225) 765-0723.

Sincerely,

Lisa Miller

Lisa L. Miller
Contracts & Grants Division

LLM:lo
Enclosure

RESPONSES

10

State of Louisiana
Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism
Office of Cultural Development
Division of Archaeology

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Lieutenant Governor

Phillip J. Jones
Secretary

Gerri Hobby
Assistant Secretary

January 27, 1999

Ms. Gayle Hazelwood, Superintendent
New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park
365 Canal Street, Suite 2400
New Orleans, LA 70130

Re: Draft General Management Plan/
Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS)
New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park
New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana

Dear Ms. Hazelwood:

Reference is made to your undated letter transmitting the above document, which was received in our office on November 25, 1998. We have completed our review of the Draft GMP/EIS for the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park and we have the following comments to offer.

We are in agreement with the proposed measures for achieving Section 106 compliance, as outlined on pages 109-111 of the document. With these procedures in place, we are confident that cultural resources will be given proper consideration and treatment, as needed. We look forward to working with you and your staff as plans for the park are implemented.

In the meantime, if we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my staff in the divisions of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

Sincerely,

Gerri Hobby
State Historic Preservation Officer

c: Mr. John Paige
National Park Service

P.O. Box 44247 • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4247 • Phone (225) 342-8170 • Fax (225) 342-4480
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State of Louisiana, State Historic Preservation Officer

COMMENTS

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE
Louisiana Sea Grant College Program • Office of the Executive Director

18 December 1998

Ms. Gayle Hazelwood
Superintendent
National Park Service
New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park
365 Canal Street, Suite 2400
New Orleans, LA 70130-1112

Re: Comments on the Draft General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park

Dear Ms. Hazelwood:

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the subject document. In my view, Alternative 3 would best fulfill the management goals of the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, but some changes in geographic and programmatic focus would seem to be highly advisable. Although the following comments may go beyond a narrow interpretation of the mandated mission/purpose of the NOJNHP, I believe them to be vital to "the continuation of jazz as a living cultural element in New Orleans and the nation." They are based on (1) Sea Grant-sponsored research involving the development of a jazz-related data base for selected Louisiana coastal parishes and outreach activities, initiated in 1986, focused on cultural/nature tourism development in these parishes and (2) a personal, decades-long avocational interest in traditional New Orleans jazz.

In order to achieve NOJNHP management goals, it is postulated that:

- Economic incentives are needed to bring new performers and audiences to the traditional jazz scene and that these incentives can, in part, be provided through tourism development,
- A program focused on jazz-related tourism development in Louisiana outside of New Orleans, but correlated with numerous events/activities in that city, can be of considerable state, regional, and national benefit,
- Although much of the institutional infrastructure exists for generating local, regional, and national interest and impact, new or revised oversight and information dissemination/facilitation mechanisms must be established to assure better awareness of jazz-related events/activities/attractions at all levels and trans-level integration and use in audience building and tourism development.

These activities of the NOJNHP and its partners should be conducted in a manner that will supplement and complement broader efforts undertaken by the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund/Smithsonian Institution *American Jazz Heritage* program and be timed to take maximum advantage of audience building opportunities afforded by the 2000 release of Ken Burns' video documentary on jazz.

Baton Rouge • Louisiana • 70803-7507 • 504/388-6710 • FAX 504/388-6711

Louisiana State University

The functional foci of the desired program would be information dissemination, facilitation, and project development/implementation. Activities would selectively involve state/local government and private sector organizations and individuals concerned with cultural tourism development; operators of jazz-oriented cruises and tours; jazz scholars, bands/performers, presenters, and aficionados; and jazz-related foundations, clubs, media firms, and federal programs. The geographic focus would be selected Louisiana coastal parishes outside of New Orleans, but regional, national, and international involvements are integral to the needed effort.

Louisiana Sea Grant has a thirty-year history of working with diverse organizational entities and individuals to achieve goals of mutual interest. We would be pleased to cooperate with you in any way possible in efforts that would be of benefit to New Orleans and coastal Louisiana--and contribute to the preservation and appreciation of America's unique musical art form.

Sincerely,

Jack R. Van Lopik

Jack R. Van Lopik, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Louisiana Sea Grant College Program

COMMENTS

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Marc H. Morial
Mayor

Jerald L. White
Director

January 25, 1999

Gayle Hazelwood, Superintendent
National Park Service
New Orleans Jazz National Historic Park
365 Canal Street, Suite 2400
New Orleans, LA 70130-1112

RE: DRAFT General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS) for New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park

Dear Ms. Hazelwood:

After careful review of the GMP/EIS for the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, we believe that Alternative C will best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner we would like to see. In addition, we welcome the opportunity to incorporate the aims of the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park into the *Louisiana American Heritage Rivers (AHR) Initiative*. See attached materials. We believe the AHR Initiative will provide you with new opportunities to cultivate valuable partnerships - like those outlined in Alternative C.

Please contact me at (504) 565-8115, if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Very truly yours,

Jerald L. White
Director

Enclosure

cc: Marc H. Morial, Mayor
Cheryl Teamer, Mayor's Office
Jackie Harris, Mayor's Office
Cedric Grant, Chief Administrative Office
Kristina Ford, City Planning Commission
Troy Carter, New Orleans City Council
James Murphy, U.S. Maritime Administration
G:\MYENV\JERALD\AHR\JAZZPARK.EIS

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RESPONSES

City of New Orleans, Office of Environmental Affairs

Inter-Organizational Action Plan

The undersigned organizations, representing the [illegible] combination of residents, merchants and ethnic backgrounds that our wonderful City of New Orleans is comprised of, support the following and ask that our City and State Government join with us in an effort to bring these common goals to [illegible].

1. A Jazz Museum or multiple museums located over around the Armstrong Park area.

2. The revitalization of Armstrong Park.

3. Opportunities for the incorporation of [illegible] percentage of local area merchants to participate [illegible] operation opportunities that revitalization would bring.

4. The establishment of a New Orleans Visitor Information Center/Transportation Facility located [illegible] to the French Quarter in the area previously used [illegible] the Parking lot. The facility would serve as a transfer point from large tour or city buses to small French Quarter [illegible] and/or carriages, and could additionally be used for [illegible] that would economically complement the facility, [illegible] of space for outdoor functions or festivals.

5. The development of a streetcar line [illegible] or Rampart Street to, or around, the [illegible] of Armstrong Park, excluding the French Quarter [illegible] Avenue or Elysian Fields Avenue.

6. The creation of a Task Force that will include members from the undersigned organizations to help facilitate these goals.

In support of a strong community and an economically healthy future for our city, knowing that the French Quarter and surrounding areas have tremendous potential to be neighborhoods that can greatly contribute to the success of our vital tourism industry while at the same time provide quality of life for those residing and working in the areas, we collectively sign this Inter-Organizational Action Plan for:

01/14/1994 22:47 5045224958 PAT OESTER CO. PAGE 02

Inter-Organizational Action Plan

4. The New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park would work with all organizations whose goals and programs are compatible with the park's purposes.

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COMMENTS

Bourbon Street Merchants Assn.

[redacted]

Esplanade Ridge

French Quarter Crime Watch

Faubourg Marigny

Organization for the Renaissance of Rampart

French Quarter Business Assn.

French Quarter Business Women Network

Treme Cottages

French Quarter Family Alliance

St. Peter Neighborhood Improvement Assn.

French Quarter North & South

Upper Decatur Assn.

Friends of Cabrini Park

Upper Quarter Citizens for Residential Quality

Friends of Jackson Square

[redacted] Neighborhood Watch

Greater Treme Collaboration

Troy Circle

16

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

COMMENTS

These are the organizations that have commit[illegible] our ideas of revitalizing Armstrong Park, the Municipal A[illegible] and the Streetcar Line.

1. Bourbon Street Merchants Association	[illegible]
2. Esplanade Ridge	[illegible]
3. French Quarter North and South	[illegible]
4. Faubourg Marigny Improvement Assoc.	[illegible]
5. French Quarter Business Association	[illegible]
6. French Q. Business Women's Network	[illegible]
7. French Quarter Family Association	[illegible]
8. Friends of Colette Park	[illegible]
9. Friends of Jackson Square	[illegible]
10. Greater Treme Coalition	[illegible]
11. Lower Quarter Crime Watch	[illegible]
12. Renaissance of Rampart	[illegible]
13. Saint Peter St. Neighborhood & Improvement Association	[illegible]
14. Treme Cottages	[illegible]
15. Upper Decatur Association	[illegible]
16. Upper Quarter Citizens For Residential Quality	[illegible]
17. Upper Quarter Neighborhood Watch	[illegible]
18. View Carre P.O.R.A.	[illegible]

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MAR-24-99 WED 02:24 PM NEW ORLEANS JAZZ NHP FAX NO. 504 589 3885 P. 02

the patrice press

[illegible]

March 14, 1999

Gayle Hazelwood, Superintendent
New Orleans Jazz National Historic Park
365 Canal Street, Suite 2400
New Orleans LA 70130-1112

Dear Gayle:

I'm sorry it has taken so long to respond to your draft management plan.

I have little to offer that I haven't offered earlier. I was especially pleased to see the general statement on page 39, which would "devote significant emphasis to educational activities . . ." But I feel the final plan should encourage the Smithsonian or others to help publishers develop record-copy orchestrations of the work of early jazzmen, for sale to high school band directors. I don't think you will find many high school trumpet players who can back Armstrong's part in "West End Blues," but there are all sorts of opportunities in other works. The Lu Watters charts, virtually note-for-note record copies, still exist and copies are for sale at reasonable prices. Such a program could well inspire a life-long love of the art form.

As it is, all programs (such as those offered on page 135) benefit only those people already in New Orleans. I think you ought to structure your efforts more toward getting people to N.O. in the first place.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory M. Freeman
Director

cc: Denis Galvin

The Patrice Press

VIEUX CARRÉ
PROPERTY OWNERS, RESIDENTS, and ASSOCIATES, INC.
Mail: P. O. Box 70494, Vieux Carré Station, New Orleans, Louisiana 70172
Office: 1038 Esplanade Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70116
Ph. (504) 581-7200 Fax (504) 581-7201
Caring about the French Quarter for over 75 years.

January 22, 1999

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park
365 Canal Street, Ste. 2400
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

RE: Draft General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement dated October, 1998

Dear Sir:

This letter is submitted on behalf of the Vieux Carré Property Owners, Residents & Associates, Inc. ("VCPORA"). In connection with the Draft General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement dated October, 1998 (the "Draft Plan"), VCPORA provides to the National Park Service the following comments, observations and recommendations.

BACKGROUND OF VCPORA

VCPORA has been in existence for over 75 years, was chartered in June of 1938 as a Louisiana not-for-profit corporation, and is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. The mission statement of VCPORA is "[t]o preserve the Vieux Carré as a national historic treasure, to maintain its quaint and distinctive character and to achieve in that historic living neighborhood a quality of life which can be enjoyed by its residents, fellow citizens, business and visitors."

For over 75 years VCPORA has held a strong and longstanding interest in the protection of Louisiana's historic properties and the enforcement of local, state and federal preservation laws. The membership of VCPORA comprises individual residents, property owners, businesses of the Vieux Carré, City, State and Nation, who use, enjoy and derive aesthetic, architectural, cultural and historic values and benefits from the preservation of landmarks and intend to do so in the future.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON DRAFT PLAN

As a general comment, we commend and applaud the National Park Service in its efforts to carry out the goals and purposes of the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park provided under Public Law 103-433, October 31, 1994. We look forward with anticipation to a plan which is comprehensive and consists of careful management, significant oversight and rigorous accountability by the National Park Service relative to all activities in any of the venues discussed in the Draft Plan.

Vieux Carré

20

Under the Draft Plan, three alternatives have been proposed, namely, Alternative A (the status quo or no action alternative) to continue current conditions at the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park; Alternative B - to emphasize personal programs to accomplish park purposes with a Visitor Center located at the old U.S. Mint; and alternative C - partnership emphasis with private and other public entities to provide services to reach other goals such as resource preservation which includes a Visitor Center located, at least on an interim basis, at the Perseverance Hall No. 4 complex in Louis Armstrong Park

VCPORA strongly urges and recommends that the National Park Service adopt Alternative C subject to the following requirements, conditions, stipulations and concerns discussed herein.

REQUIREMENTS, CONDITIONS, STIPULATIONS AND CONCERNS

(i) The Final Plan Should be Sensitive to Private Citizens Living in Historic Neighborhoods

5 The National Park Service personnel should consult, coordinate and work with the other agencies, individuals, entities and associations such as VCPORA to offer visitors a variety of ways to visit the sites. Particular attention should be given to issues of safety, way-finding, traffic, security, and respect for the rights of private citizens and residents who live in the historic neighborhoods adjacent to the sites.

(ii) Meaningful Participation by Affected Neighborhood Residents and Other Individuals, Agencies, Entities and Associations

6 The Draft Plan details on page 105 the efforts of the National Park Service to involve the public in the planning process. While the Park Service is commended for its efforts to achieve the goal of public involvement, continued diligent efforts should be made to fully involve neighborhood residents, individuals, entities and associations. Public service announcements, press releases, and outreach efforts directed to the neighborhood residents and associations, such as VCPORA, should be increased. The drafting of the final plan should include participation by such representatives and other interested individuals. To the extent practicable, the groups should be included in the revisions or drafting of the final plan such as to afford the affected individuals meaningful participation.[1]

[1] This goal would be consistent with the mandates of the Executive Order issued by President Clinton on September 30, 1993. Executive Order No. 12866 dictated that all federal agencies adhere to certain regulatory principles. The Executive Order requires that each agency that (consistent with its own rules, regulations or procedures) provide the public with meaningful participation in the regulatory process. In particular, before issuing a notice of proposed rulemaking, each agency should, where appropriate, seek the involvement of those who are intended to benefit from and those expected to be burdened by any regulation (including, specifically, State local, and tribal officials). In addition, each agency should afford the public a meaningful opportunity to comment on any proposed regulation, which in most cases should include a comment period of not less than 60 days. Each agency also is directed to explore and, where appropriate, use consensual mechanisms for developing regulations, including negotiated rulemaking.

20

5. The National Park Service would work with the city and neighborhood groups in order to have the least impact on the neighborhood.

6. All agency and public comments would be considered in the final plan.

(iii) The Existing Historic Structures Located in the Louis Armstrong Park Should be Retained and Rehabilitated

On page 45 and throughout other portions of the Draft Plan, certain existing historic structures and other buildings are identified within Louis Armstrong Park.

7 As noted on page 65, two of the structures are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, namely Perseverance Hall No. 4 (circa 1819) and the Jean Louis Rabasas House (circa 1825). In addition, the complex includes the Caretaker House and the Reimann House. Because Perseverance Hall, the Rabasas House and the Caretaker House represent the few surviving structures in that area of the Tremé neighborhood, those buildings along with the other structures erected on or moved on the site should remain as part of the complex. Moreover, any rehabilitation or adaptive use of these structures should not be undertaken which would affect the architectural qualities which make them significant. Any alteration or expansion of these structures should comply fully with local, state and federal preservation guidelines. We can ill afford to tamper any further with existing historic structures within Armstrong Park.

(iv) The Staffing of Personnel for Alternative C should Include Individuals who have Security Responsibilities

The growth and development of the jazz park will probably result in welcome increases in security and safety in the area simply because of increased numbers of visitors. In addition, though, it is important to include security personnel among the park's anticipated professional staff.

(v) All Performances or "Informances" Occurring in Outdoor Venues Should be Conducted so as to Minimize any Adverse Impact Upon the Adjacent Historic Neighborhoods

The National Park Service and other sponsors have used Armstrong Park for outdoor musical and other performances with increasing frequency. The venue is certainly a reasonable one. However, just as neighborhoods can be negatively impacted by large amounts of traffic, they can also suffer if levels of music or other sounds are excessive. If evening performances are contemplated, all planning must take into consideration the surrounding historic neighborhoods.

(vi) Development of Carrying Capacity Monitoring System

The Draft Plan (pages 33, 98) clearly recognizes that attractions, whether man-made or natural, have finite carrying capacities. We enthusiastically endorse the National Park Service's continued development and monitoring of carrying capacity mechanisms not only for the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, but also for the surrounding neighborhoods, especially the Vieux Carré.

7. The National Park Service would follow all internal policies and federal regulations concerning the preservation of cultural resources.

(vii) Transportation Planning Should be Considered with Minimal Impact on the Historic Neighborhoods

8 As part of the transportation and shuttle services planning, we urge the consideration of utilizing existing generous parking spaces immediately west of the Armstrong Park site, which could be developed in partnership with local entities as a parking, shuttle and transportation center.

(viii) Clearly Define Roles and Responsibilities of Public and Private Partnerships

We are encouraged by the option of including both private and public partnerships for the development of the complex. Any cooperative agreement entered into by such partners, however, shall include provisions that such partners shall likewise be bound by and strictly adhere to the terms and conditions of the final plan.

Vieux Carré Property Owners, Residents & Associates, Inc. appreciates the opportunity to comment on this important plan, and we look forward to a continued successful working relationship with the National Park Service.

Very truly yours,

Anthony C. Marino
President, VCPORA, Inc.

8. The National Park Service would give consideration to the parking area west of Armstrong Park if additional parking was necessary for park programs.

Comment Form

Please let us know your ideas about the alternatives for the new park. If you need more space, feel free to attach additional sheets of paper to this form. When you are finished, please fold on the line, tape closed, and mail. No postage is necessary. Thank you for your time. **Please return by January 25, 1999.**

1. Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

   Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☒

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

   I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO TO IMPROVE THIS ALT. C, BUT A PARTNERSHIP IS DEFINITELY THE WAY TO GO. PLEASE KEEP ME INFORMED OF ALL FUTURE EVENTS AND PUBLICATIONS. THANK YOU -- P. ABBOTSFORD

Pete Abbotsford

Comment Form

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1. Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

   Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☒

   Attention!
   Many thanks for very nice book about NEW ORLEANS JAZZ National Historical Park.

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

   I,am interested for future details about yur,s activity.

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

   I think,that collaboration with other subject and organisation is needed for future expansion yours praiseworthy designes,yes!

Truhlar Antonin

24

Comment Form

Please let us know your ideas about the alternatives for the new park. If you need more space, feel free to attach additional sheets of paper to this form. When you are finished, please fold on the line, tape closed, and mail. No postage is necessary. Thank you for your time. Please return by January 25, 1999.

Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☐

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

Tom Bissell

Comment Form

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1. Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

   Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☒

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it? no current changes

   Well - rounded

Beverly Boulet

Comment Form

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1. Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☑

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

N/A

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

N/A

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

9

I am concerned that a Park whose strategy for development is so heavily weighted in partnership could be made to evaporate or not even "get off the ground." I believe a budget line threshold must be committed to the Park and that partnerships should have guarantees built into them [illegible] permanence, making "decay" difficult

2

W.A. Brower

9. The park would be funded to carry out is basic mission. However, the partnerships would allow the park to expand basic needs to provide an enhanced visitor experience and appreciation.

COMMENTS

[redacted]

December 13, 1988

To: New Orleans Jazz National Park Planning Team

First, congratulations for a very comprehensive and useful document, with excellent summaries of existing archives, program and organizations. I learned much from reading it, even though I visit New Orleans often and have written more than 35 articles about New Orleans jazz musicians, producers and archives. I've now prepared a list of these articles, and it is enclosed. Copies of my articles and photos may be a resource you will want to use. I've written about 300 articles on jazz musicians and have an archive of 25,000 jazz photos, about 3,000 published with my articles and festival reviews. I also videotape many live performances and interview on video and save these as important "oral history" items.

Gene Hyden, who now lives in New Orleans, and I began a Jazz Photographers Association in 1980. Oops! I forgot to include an article I wrote about Gene and the JPA in my list.(TMS, 7/81,pp.34-35) I edited its newsletter for two years.

My wife and I will be at the French Quarter festival in April, to cover it, and also will write a new article about George Buck's 50 years of producing records. I'd like to talk with someone on your team to report progress in your program.

10 There is a major omission in your report. I don't find the French Quarter festival mentioned, and it is the one that best perpetuates early jazz styles. Its coordinator should be on your committee. So should George or Nina Buck. I think there is too much emphasis on the Mardi Gras theme. These are small bits to pick with such a fine planning effort, and corrections can be made. I see that you're being careful about designating New Orleans as the "birthplace" of jazz, which is fact can be traced to religious activity in the early 1800s and before.

I made notes on a dozen or more pages, but don't have time to write more for now, and we're going to Spain for January. So I'll just amplify briefly why I chose Alternative #3, pending further study.

11 I think Alternative #5 is too costly, and it is unclear who may become "partners" in this. Some partnerships should be confirmed before launching the program. I believe that restoring the two old buildings also is much too costly. Sometimes it is just better to document them in photographs, tear them down and spend the money on a more functional new facility. I say this despite being a preservationist. We bought an 1881 former church and remodelled it into our home 20 years ago, and I've written articles for Historic Preservation magazine. At any rate, careful and critical evaluation of restoring the buildings is needed.

12 Most importantly, Louis Armstrong Park and the entire area north of Bourbon Street is not safe. We have friends who have been mugged there, and we did not feel safe when visiting the park in daytime. We didn't stay long. This issue is not well-addressed in your document. What can be done to improve safety in that neighborhood? It is imperative that this be done for Alternative #3 to succeed.

I applaud your desire to serve as an information clearinghouse, but overlap in such programs should be avoided. I didn't even know about the information services offered by the city and the park service. In fact, I prepared a "where to hear jazz" list for JazzTimes conventioneers in 1988, primarily from current information provided by musician friends. But I'm sure I missed some "goodies."

These are my initial thoughts, but those may change and I'll have others. Please call on me as an advisor for your effort if you wish. I look forward to our trip to New Orleans in April, to meeting some team members, to hearing lots of good jazz and to being a cheerleader for the success of your program.

Sincerely

Bob Byler

Bob Byler

10. The French Quarter Festival has been added to the list of organizations found in the document.

11. The primary purpose of the cost figures in the alternatives are for general comparison. Before implementing the preferred alternative, the National Park Service would undertake a series of studies to develop the most cost-effective way to develop the park.

12. The National Park Service would work with the city of New Orleans to provide a safe environment for visitors.

COMMENTS

Robert Ryler
[redacted]
(419) 823-1192

Bob Ryler's articles about New Orleans jazz subjects (+ more than 100 photos)

In The Mississippi Rag of Minneapolis (I'm a contributing editor)
8/77 - Preservation Hall Jazz Band, "Dancing in the Aisles," Cover & pp.1-4.
10/78- Jamie Wight ("Young Man with an Old Horn), pp.8-9.*
6/85 - Record Producer George Buck, "Preserving Jazz for Posterity," pp.5-7.*
(Content of above also used for article in Business Atlanta, 5/88.)
5/88 - American Federation of Jazz Societies convention in New Orleans, pp.7-8.
(Provided 7 photos & information for review by Bill Knowles.)
8/88 - Banu Gibson, "Banu Gibson's Hot Jazz," pp.8-9.
9/89 - Tulane Univ. oral history archive, "Spoken Treasures," pp.9-11.
6/90 - Dukes of Dixieland, "Dukes...Enter Their 5th Decade," pp.18-21.
(Update on above article provided in letter to editor, 3/91, p.7.)
3/91 - "Jazz Times Convention (in New Orleans) Supports Networking," pp.28-29
(Convention report also in Jazz Notes, Jazz Journalists Assoc., 2/91.)
7/91 - Jacques Geuthe, "Geuthe Cooks Tasty Jazz Menu," Cover & pp.1-4.
7/91 - "That Special Feeling of New Orleans Jazz," pp.7-10.
(Brief bios & comments by Tom Saunders, Amy Sharpe, Ken Hall, Tom Hibbert, Duke Heitger, Tom Roberts, Scott Black, Steve Pistorius, Eddie Bayard, Neil Unternehr & Wendell Brunious.)
(Reprinted in "Best of 1991" compilation of Jazz Journalists Assoc.)
4/93 - "Pete Fountain's Swinging Dixie Captures New Fans for Jazz," pp.11-13.
4/93 - "Band Members' Profiles" (Fountain band), pp.14-16.
6/95 - "Louisiana Repertory Jazz Ensemble Plays 'Neighborhood' Music, pp.36-38.*
6/95 - Fred Starr - "Historian & Jazzman," p.40.
7/97 - French Quarter Jazz Festival, "C'est si bon," pp.16-17.

+ Gene Hyde + Jazz Photographer Association 7/91, pp.34-3

In T-J Today of Watsonville, CA
2/88 - Preservation Hall J.B. & tribute to Allan Jaffe, pp.37-40.
11/88- "Connie Jones Recalls Travels with his Horn," pp.38-41.
11/89- Banu Gibson & Jamie Wight in concert in Chico, pp.43-47.
5/92 - "New Dukes of Dixieland Revive the Spirit Again," pp.51-54.
In AAJRC Journal of Indianapolis (Int. Assoc. of Jazz Record Collectors)
7/88 - George Buck, Johnson McRee, Rob Erdos (trad jazz producers), pp.39-45.
7/88 - "Tulane University Preserves Memories of Jazz in Many Forms," pp.11-18.
In Jenkin's Jazz Journal of Parsons, KS
11/87- Report from surveys of traditional jazz record producers, p.5.
5/90 - Buck, McRee, Erdos (slight revision of AAJRC Journal article), pp.5-7.
In Jazz Times of Silver Spring, MD
12/90- "George Buck, Classic Jazz Preservationist," p.20.
12/90- "Pete Fountain, Mellow New Orleans Clarinetist," p.28.
(Above article also in 1990 "best of" compilation by Jazz Journalists Assoc. & "selected reprints" by Northwest Ohio Writers Forum, 1992.)

Producer George Buck & the Preservation Hall J.B. were included in an article on traditional jazz resurgence," in a journal, Popular Music & Society, 11/86, pp.47-57. N.O.-related articles were on Butch Thompson in T-J Today, 8/88; Gabriel Brothers band of Detroit in The Mississippi Rag, 1/77; Norris Cox's Explorer Post band in New Orleans in TMR, 8/88. *Articles on Wight & Buck written before they moved to New Orleans. Fred Starr & several LRJE members are from New Orleans. Photos of N.O. musicians also used in my coverage of jazz festivals elsewhere; e.g. Jones, Gibson, Wight, Hal Smith, Chris Tyle, Heitger, McDermott. Have reviewed a CD by Geuthe & video by the Dukes. My 1984 photo of Louis Armstrong used in Potomac River Jazz Club's Tailgate Ramblings, 8/94.

Also have videotaped about 1,000 hours of jazz performances, including most bands named above and others in New Orleans.

Comment Form

Please let us know your ideas about the alternatives for the new park. If you need more space, feel free to attach additional sheets of paper to this form. When you are finished, please fold on the line, tape closed, and mail. No postage is necessary. Thank you for your time. Please return by January 25, 1999.

1. Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

   Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☑ Alternative 3 ☐

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

   Publicize program better.
   Provide monthly calendars of events.

13

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

   Add an advisory committee of jazz presenters, journalists, photographers + archivists.
   Produce an annual "best N.O. jazz photos" book and, perhaps, representative CDs + videos.

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

   Assure safety in area involved.
   Line up partnership commitments.
   Re-consider costly building restorations.

Bob Byler

13. An advisory committee of jazz presenters, journalists, photographers, and archivists has been added to alternative 2. The interpretive program for the park could include books, CDs, and videos, as well as other media that would be used to provide for a quality visitor experience.

Comment Form

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1. Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

   Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☑ With strict oversight!

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

Shirl Cieutat

Comment Form

Please let us know your ideas about the alternatives for the new park. If you need more space, feel free to attach additional sheets of paper to this form. When you are finished, please fold on the line, tape closed, and mail. No postage is necessary. Thank you for your time. Please return by January 25, 1999.

1. Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

   Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☒

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

14 Add some protective language that would prevent large commercial interests such as record companies and theme park organizations from setting up shop in a way that would slant the character and use of the park toward their benefit at the expense of the stated purposes of the park.

Bill Crow

14. The New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park is required by its authorizing legislation and National Park Service policy to carry out the park's purposes, which are found in the General Management Plan.

Comment Form

Please let us know your ideas about the alternatives for the new park. If you need more space, feel free to attach additional sheets of paper to this form. When you are finished, please fold on the line, tape closed, and mail. No postage is necessary. Thank you for your time. Please return by January 25, 1999.

1. Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ■

N.B. On page 27 of The Plan, the list of famous New Orleans musicians who could and should be "interpreted" omits three of the city's greatest clarinet players:
BARNEY BIGARD
ALPHONSE PICOU
ALBERT NICHOLAS

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

15

Throughout The Plan the emphasis is on early New Orleans jazz. The city is understandably-- and rightly, in my opinion -- viewed as the birthplace of jazz, but the park should embrace jazz as a whole and give consideration to all later developments, so that the park could become the world center for jazz research and related activities. There will shortly be no one alive who participated in the creation of the early jazz to which you repeatedly refer.

Stanley Dance

15. The list of musicians on page 27 of the draft document is not meant to be exclusive, but to serve as a starting point for identifying musicians significant to early New Orleans jazz.

Comment Form

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1. Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

   Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☑

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it? 3 ways to improve

- strong management
- overview
- accountability

Dolores Dufoor

Comment Form

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Altho we missed your deadline, please put us on your mailing list. We are a non-profit organization of 200 members dedicated to preserving + improving the residential quality of life in the Vieux Carré.

1. Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☒

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

It looks great! Our problems are when amplified music/talking is done in Armstrong Park and carries loudly at the French Quarter. We assume that you plan to have historical jazz only -- i.e. acoustical music in the park. Please keep us informed. Jean Flynn

Ivan Flurry

35

Comment Form

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1. Which of the alternatives would best preserve New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

   Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☒

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

16

Add the annual April French Quarter Festival to your list of partnerships. I saw no mention of it anywhere in the Draft General Management Plan. It is more popular among my associates than the N. O. Jazz and Heritage Festival.

Harold Gray

16. The French Quarter Festival was added to the list of organizations found in the document.

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   Alternative 3 seems to be the best of the three, but a strict oversight of federal funds needs to be in place so that the money is not lost. I would love to see a little more life in the park.

Keppa Horn

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17 The difference in cost between removing or rehabilitating the Reimann & Rabassa Houses is so slight that removal would seem to make no sense.

Institute of Jazz Studies

17. The primary purpose of the cost figures in the alternatives are for general comparison. Before implementing the preferred alternative, the National Park Service would undertake a series of studies to develop the most cost-effective way to develop the park. These additional studies would better determine actual costs.

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Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☒ The Park should serve as a valuable umbrella/unifying force for the various jazz groups/programs in New Orleans. Improving Armstrong Park is a definite positive.

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

* Would you send me a copy of the 1993 report (Special Research Study..... New Orleans Jazz, Louisiana)? done 10/9/98

Thank you.
TLJ

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it? The success of this proposal depends upon improving the image of the Armstrong Park neighborhood for the tourist (as well as many residents). The neighborhood must be more secure, and the visitor must feel safe to visit the Park. Thank you for an attractive and informative document. *

18

T.W. Jacobsen

18. The National Park Service would work toward developing a positive relationship between the park and the community. Safety issues would be addressed to protect both visitors and residents.

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19

Be sure to recognize the role of churches in the development of the music and the musicians (e. g. the Fairview Baptist Church and the brass bands in the 1970s) and to consider churches as partners in providing rich musical experiences for visitors through their worship services and other regular activities.

William Jaynes

19. The contributions of all organizations to New Orleans jazz traditions would be recognized by the park.

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   ACCOMPLISH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
   LIMIT NOISE LEVEL WITH RESPECT TO
   ADJACENT RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS.

20

Don & Betty Kern

20. There would be some temporary increase in neighborhood noise levels during construction; all measures would be taken to reduce the noise level to the lowest extent possible.

COMMENTS

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   Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☐ Alternative 3 ☒

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

   Everything. We need more people to know and be taught about jazz as an entertaining art form. More hands on for kids and concerts for adults + kids.

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

   Try to get more funds to expand what is there. I like this plan, but it will need more funding to really do this correctly.

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

   This plan sounds great to me. I'm sure there are things to be done to improve this plan. I think smart money management done by qualified professionals will help make this plan survive. Involvement with the private sector to raise funds would be a smart thing to do.

Craig Klein

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Emmit Lockhard

COMMENTS

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Alternative 1 ☐ **Alternative 2** ☐ **Alternative 3** ■

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

N/A

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

N/A

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

I BELIEVE NPS SHOULD EXERCISE MAXIMUM CONTROL OF WORK AND GOALS OF N.O.J.H.P. ADDITIONALLY VERY STRINGENT OVERSIGHT OF ANY PARTNERS ACTIVITIES, ADHERENCE TO PLANS AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY.

COSIMO V. MATASSA, FOR VIEUX CARRE PROPERTY OWNERS AND ASSOCIATES.

Cosima Matass

44

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   take some of the ideas from alternatives

4

Patricia Mitchell

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2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

   I do not think the use of the US Mint is as good as another location - spread visitors out in the area. There is a lot of congestion in the area of the Mint & French Market.

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

   This should be done with very strict oversight as the money is spent widely.

Betty Norris

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PAGE

COMMENTS

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1. Which of the alternatives would best perpetuate New Orleans Jazz in the manner you would like to see?

Alternative 1 ☐ Alternative 2 ☑ Alternative 3 ☐

2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

2. Alternative one should only be considered if funding is severely cut for park

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

3. Alternative 2 is preferred for two primary reasons:
1) The Old Mint is within the current tourist "beltway", easy access to the park programs will considerably increase visitor numbers.
2) The cost of implementing this alternative is reachable in the foreseeable future.

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

21 4. The goals of the park will never be reached if its primary location is Armstrong Park for the following reasons:
1) Due to its very controversial history, there may never be an agreement reached between neighborhood leaders and government on its use? The very creation of this park finally destroyed the heart of this historic neighborhood (Treme).
2) The question of safety in the park will be difficult to address. Since the shooting death of a tourist at mid day in the late 1990s, all ground level tourist families will thing twice to go in that park.
3) Fund raising through partnerships with the private sector will be difficult as it has been for the many past proposed uses of the park. Better to think smaller and reach the goal faster at a site that is already successful.

RESPONSES

Jason Patterson

21. The National Park Service would work toward developing a positive relationship between the park and the community. Safety issues would be addressed to protect both visitors and residents.

COMMENTS

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RESPONSES

Rigmor Plesner

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4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

   with intense planning to make it really work!

Brucie Rafforty

COMMENTS

RESPONSES

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2. What would you change in alternative 1 to improve it?

   NOT AN OPTION

3. What would you change in alternative 2 to improve it?

   NOT AN OPTION

4. What would you change in alternative 3 to improve it?

   It is important to keep the focus @ Armstrong Park & Perseverance Hall

Sal Sunseri

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   Don't let jazz suffer

   Don't let jazz suffer the fate of Shakespeare -- entertainment for the masses becomes fuel for scholars, "education" and study. Put more emphasis on performance -- the only good way to educate -- and leave room in your planning for, yes, improvisation as the future unfolds. Emphasize fluidity, not rigidity. Loosen up.

Hal Willard

Responses to Verbal Comments at Public Meetings

A question was raised as to whether all park funding would be consumed to develop the visitor center in the preferred alternative. The park's response is that development and program funds are separate items, and the money used to build the visitor center would not adversely effect park programs.

Another question was raised concerning the recognition of Gerttown, Lincoln Park, and Johnson Park, as well as other sites associated with early jazz but not located near Louis Armstrong Park. The park's response is that all sites associated with early jazz would be recognized through the interpretive program.

A third question was raised concerning whether the Park Service intended to do an archeological survey in the area of the new visitor center and if the results of the survey would be interpreted to the visitor. The park's response is that the Park Service is required by policy and federal law to identify significant cultural resources and to develop plans for their preservation or documentation. The idea of interpreting the archeological work during development of the park will be taken under consideration.

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As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering wise use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The department also promotes the goals of the Take Pride in America campaign by encouraging stewardship and citizen responsibility for the public lands and promoting citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

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NPS D-13A / May 1999

END

08-30-99